

What is claimed is:

1. A power control device for a construction machine including an engine, an actuator adapted to be driven with power of said engine, engine stop means for stopping said engine automatically when it is not necessary to drive said actuator, and an air conditioner for conditioning the air in an interior of a cab of the construction machine,

said power control device comprising engine power necessity determining means for determining whether the power is necessary or not, air conditioner operation detecting means for detecting whether said air conditioner is in operation or not, and air conditioner operation maintaining means for maintaining at least a state of minimum operation of said air conditioner when said air conditioner operation detecting means detects that said air conditioner is in operation and even when said engine power necessity determining means determines that the power is not necessary.

2. The power control device for the construction machine according to claim 1, wherein said air conditioner is driven by the power of said engine and said air conditioner operation maintaining means is configured so as to

prevent the engine from stopping by said engine stop means when said air conditioner operation detecting means detects that said air conditioner is in operation and even when said engine power necessity determining means determines that the power is not necessary.

3. The power control device for the construction machine according to claim 1, further comprising an auxiliary power source which generates a smaller power than the power of said engine, and wherein said air conditioner operation maintaining means is configured so as to drive said air conditioner with the power of said auxiliary power source when said air conditioner operation detecting means detects that said air conditioner is in operation.

4. The power control device for the construction machine according to claim 1, further comprising a battery, and wherein said air conditioner has a blower fan driven with electric power supplied from said battery and is configured so that said engine is stopped automatically by said engine stop means when said engine power necessity determining means determines that the power of said engine is not necessary, and said air conditioner

operation maintaining means is configured so as to stop an operation of said blower fan upon lapse of a predetermined time after the engine is stopped.

5. The power control device for the construction machine according to claim 1, further comprising a battery and battery supply electric power detecting means for detecting a residual quantity of electric power supplied by said battery, and wherein said air conditioner has a blower fan driven with said electric power supplied from said battery and is configured so that said engine is stopped by said engine stop means when said engine power necessity determining means determines that the power of said engine is not necessary, and said air conditioner operation maintaining means is configured so as to stop an operation of said blower fan when said battery supply electric power detecting means detects that the residual quantity of said electric power supplied by said battery is smaller than a predetermined value.

6. A power control device for a construction machine, comprising an engine, an actuator adapted to be driven with power of said engine, engine stop means for stopping said engine automatically when it is not necessary

to drive said actuator, an air conditioner for conditioning the air in an interior of a cab of the construction machine, air conditioner operation detecting means for detecting whether said air conditioner is in operation or not, engine power necessity determining means for determining whether the power of said engine is necessary or not on the basis of both operation information provided from said air conditioner operation detecting means and information on operation provided from operating means, and air conditioner operation maintaining means for maintaining at least a state of minimum operation of said air conditioner when said air conditioner operation detecting means detects that said air conditioner is in operation and even when said engine power necessity determining means determines that the power is not necessary.